

ORNITHOLOGY.—*Descriptions of nineteen new East Indian passerine birds.*<sup>1</sup> HARRY C. OBERHOLSER, U. S. National Museum.

The following pages contain descriptions of 19 new birds, in the United States National Museum collection, belonging to the passerine families *Hirundinidae*, *Graculidae* (= *Eulabetidae*), *Campephagidae*, *Dicruridae*, *Dicaeidae*, and *Ploceidae*.

Measurements are given in millimeters, and have been taken as in the author's previous papers. Names of colors are based on Ridgway's "Color Standards and Color Nomenclature."

#### HIRUNDINIDAE

##### † *Hypurolepis javanica hypolampra*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Hypurolepis javanica javanica*, of Java, but larger; and with the posterior lower parts lighter, their median portion whitish.

*Description*.—Type, adult female, No. 179936, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Lafau, Nias Island, Barussan Islands, western Sumatra, March 22, 1903; Dr. W. L. Abbott. Forehead between auburn and chestnut; rest of upper parts metallic bluish slate black; tail chaetura black with a faint greenish sheen, and with subterminal spots of white; wings chaetura black with a faint greenish sheen, passing on the inner margins of the quills to fuscous, the lesser coverts edged with the color of the back; lores black; sides of head and of neck like the back; chin and throat cinnamon rufous, verging a little toward tawny; posterior lower parts dull white, streaked on the sides, flanks, and crissum with brownish drab; lining of wing rather dark hair brown, the feathers with drab edgings.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 103 mm.; tail, 45; exposed culmen, 8.5; tarsus, 10.5; middle toe without claw, 11.

Swallows of this species from Sumatra belong apparently to this race, as probably also do those from the southern Malay Peninsula. This new subspecies seems to be, in its lighter, brighter posterior under surface, sufficiently different from *Hypurolepis javanica domicola* (Jerdon) of southern India.

##### † *Hypurolepis javanica mallopega*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Resembling *Hypurolepis javanica frontalis* (Celebes examples) but averaging somewhat larger; forehead, throat, and middle of posterior lower parts averaging paler; sides and flanks lighter, and averaging also more brownish (less grayish) and more uniform (less spotted) in appearance.

*Type*.—Adult male, No. 202219, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Mt. Santo Tomas, altitude 5,250 ft., Benguet, Island of Luzon, Philippine Islands, December 31, 1906; Dr. E. A. Mearns; original number, 14642.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 107 mm.; tail, 50; exposed culmen, 8.5; tarsus, 10; middle toe without claw, 10.

The birds of this species from apparently all the Philippine Islands belong to this race.

<sup>1</sup> Received September 20, 1926.

## GRACULIDAE

† *Lamprocorax panayensis eustathis*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Lamprocorax panayensis insidiator*, from Sumatra, but with green of plumage more oily or yellowish.

*Description*.—Type, adult male, No. 182998, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Kota Bangoen, eastern Borneo, January 30, 1914; H. C. Raven. Entire plumage, excepting the remiges and the rectrices, metallic bottle green with a slight bronzy tinge, the chin and throat with a very slight purplish sheen; remiges and rectrices blackish on their upper surfaces, with steel greenish, bluish, and purplish reflections; lower surface of tail and wings blackish clove brown, the under wing-coverts and axillars margined with metallic green.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 93.5 mm.; tail, 63; exposed culmen, 15.5; height of bill at base, 7.5; tarsus, 20.5; middle toe without claw, 17.

This new race is so much smaller than *Lamprocorax panayensis heterochlorus* of the Anamba Islands that there is no danger of confusing it with that form.

† *Lamprocorax panayensis alipodis*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Resembling *Lamprocorax panayensis eustathis*, from the mainland of eastern Borneo, but much larger, and of a much more bluish (less oily or yellowish) green.

*Type*.—Adult male, No. 182435, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Pulo Pandjang, eastern Borneo, May 2, 1913; H. C. Raven.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 111 mm.; tail, 81; exposed culmen, 19; height of bill at base, 8; tarsus, 23.5; middle toe without claw, 19.

† *Lamprocorax panayensis nesodramus*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Resembling *Lamprocorax panayensis rhadinorhamphus*, from Simalur Island, western Sumatra, but feet decidedly larger, other measurements somewhat larger, except bill, which is relatively smaller.

*Type*.—Adult male, No. 179273, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Pulo Babi, Barussan Islands, western Sumatra, January 13, 1902; Dr. W. L. Abbott.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 103 mm.; tail, 65.5; exposed culmen, 15.5; height of bill at base, 8; tarsus, 23; middle toe without claw, 18.5.

† *Lamprocorax panayensis halictypus*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Lamprocorax panayensis affinis*, from northeastern India, but smaller, and of a more oily green, without much bronzy purplish sheen.

*Type*.—Adult male, No. 153845, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Telibon Island, Trang, Lower Siam, March 1, 1896; Dr. W. L. Abbott.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 100 mm.; tail, 66; exposed culmen, 15.5; height of bill at base, 6.5; tarsus, 22; middle toe without claw, 17.5.

The Malay Peninsula bird, here described, differs from *Lamprocorax panayensis insidiator* of Sumatra in larger size, and in the more bronzy tinge of the plumage.

† *Gracula javana halibrecta*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Gracula javana andamanensis*, from the Andaman Islands, but larger.

*Description.*—Type, adult male, No. 178596, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Little Nicobar Island, Nicobar Islands, February 27, 1901; Dr. W. L. Abbott. Entire plumage black, excepting a large white spot on the middle of the six outer primaries; middle of crown, the back, and jugulum with a metallic violet or bronzy violet sheen; throat and chin with a dull greenish blue sheen; sides of crown, sides of occiput, all of the lower back, rump, upper tail-coverts, breast, abdomen, thighs, and crissum, with a metallic sheen of dark American green; margins of all the superior wing-coverts, except the greater series, with glossy bluish, greenish, or violet sheen; wing-quills and rectrices with slightly bluish or greenish reflections, excepting the inner webs of the former, which are brownish, and decidedly paler along the basal portion of the inner margins.

*Measurements of type.*—Wing, 184.5 mm.; tail, 93; exposed culmen, 17.5; height of bill at base, 15; greatest width of lappets, 15; tarsus, 40; middle toe without claw, 27.

#### CAMPEPHAGIDAE

##### +*Artamides sumatrensis messeris*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters.*—Similar to *Artamides sumatrensis sumatrensis*, from Sumatra, but upper and lower parts paler, particularly in the male; size larger.

*Description.*—Type, adult male, No. 169789, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Trang, Lower Siam, March 3, 1899; Dr. W. L. Abbott. Upper parts between dark gull gray and neutral gray, the forehead, rump and upper tail-coverts paler; tail brownish black; primaries also brownish black; secondaries and tertials, dark neutral gray, the wing-coverts and the basal portions of the outer edges of the wing-quills gray like the back, the outer edges of the secondaries terminally, the outer edges of the primaries medially, and the outer webs of the tertials, gray, similar to the back but lighter; sides of head and of neck like the back; lower parts light neutral gray, slightly darker on the chin and throat, and paling on the abdomen to pallid neutral gray; crissum buffy grayish white, rather broadly barred with neutral gray; under wing-coverts white, barred with blackish outwardly, and with light neutral gray elsewhere.

*Measurements of type.*—Wing, 158 mm.; tail, 108; exposed culmen, 24.5; height of bill at base, 13; tarsus, 23.5; middle toe without claw, 19.5.

##### +*Artamides sumatrensis nesiarchus*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters.*—Similar to *Artamides sumatrensis sumatrensis*, from Sumatra, but larger; in the female with less white (more gray) on rump, and with slightly heavier black bars on posterior lower parts, particularly the crissum.

*Type.*—Adult male, No. 180225, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Pulo Parit, near Karimon Island, eastern Sumatra; June 11, 1903; Dr. W. L. Abbott.

*Measurements of type.*—Wing, 160 mm.; tail, 107.5; exposed culmen, 28; height of bill at base, 12.5; tarsus, 24.5; middle toe without claw, 19.

Although this subspecies is geographically intermediate between *Artamides sumatrensis sumatrensis* of Sumatra and *Artamides sumatrensis messeris* of the Malay Peninsula, it is larger than either, and further differs from the latter, in the male, by reason of darker coloration above and below, and more ashy (less whitish), usually less numerous and less distinctly barred, under tail-coverts; in the female by reason of somewhat darker coloration, less white

on the rump and upper tail-coverts; and somewhat narrower white bars on the abdomen and lower breast.

## DICRURIDAE

+ *Dissemurus paradiseus mallomicrus*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Dissemurus paradiseus rangoonensis* from Burma, but smaller, crest shorter, and racquet broader and longer.

*Description*.—Type, adult male, No. 178660, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Hastings Island, Mergui Archipelago, December 11, 1900; Dr. W. L. Abbott. Entire plumage brownish black, all the exposed parts of the body plumage, except on the chin, throat, abdomen, and flanks, glossy metallic greenish or bluish, this on the breast taking the form of apical spots; wings and tail somewhat shiny brownish black, the rectrices and remiges with their outer webs mostly metallic greenish or bluish; the exposed surface of the upper wing-coverts similar.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 152.5 mm.; tail, 342; tail except racquet feathers, 145; length of racquet, 100; greatest width of racquet, 20; total culmen, 32.5; height of bill at base, 13.5; longest feather of frontal crest, 22; tarsus, 24.5.

This subspecies is apparently confined to the Mergui Archipelago.

+ *Dissemurus paradiseus hypoballus*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Dissemurus paradiseus mallomicrus*, from the Mergui Archipelago, but readily distinguishable by smaller size, shorter frontal crest, and smaller racquet.

*Type*.—Adult male, No. 153820, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Prahmon, Trang, Lower (Peninsular) Siam, April 1, 1896; Dr. W. L. Abbott.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 149.5 mm.; tail, 350.5; tail except racquet feathers, 143; total culmen, 28.5; height of bill at base, 11; tarsus, 24.5; length of racquet, 78; greatest width of racquet, 21.5; longest feather of frontal crest, 16.5.

This race differs from *Dissemurus paradiseus paradiseus*, of Siam, in shorter wing, much shorter frontal crest, and much smaller racquet. It occupies the Malay Peninsula south of Tenasserim, but not the island of Singapore.

For this bird Mr. E. C. Stuart Baker has used<sup>2</sup> the name *Dissemurus paradiseus setifer* (Cabanis);<sup>3</sup> but an examination of the basis of this name shows it to be unavailable for use in this connection. It is introduced, without any description, and without citation other than as follows:

“599.1. *D. setifer* *Nob.*—

*Edolius setifer* (err. *retifer*) Temm.—*Java; Sumatra. Mas. ad. et Jun.; Fem. 3 St.*”

It is thus evidently not intended as a new name but as merely the adoption of Temminck's *Edolius setifer* as the name for the birds that Cabanis had in hand. In fact, the only thing that could save it from being an absolute nomen nudum is the citation “*Edolius setifer* (err. *retifer*) Temm.”; and it must be

<sup>2</sup> *Novitates Zoologicae* 25: (No. 1) 300. May 1, 1918.

<sup>3</sup> *D[issemurus]. setifer* Cabanis, *Mus. Hein* 1: 111. 1851 (after October 23).

thus of identical application. Temminck proposed the name *Edolius retifer* as follows:<sup>4</sup> "Le *Drongo à raquettes* que nous proposons de nommer *Edolius retifer* en remplacement de *Lanius malabaricus*." Later in the same work<sup>5</sup> he emended it to *Edolius setifer*. Thus both *Edolius retifer* Temminck and *Edolius setifer* Temminck are pure synonyms of *Lanius malabaricus* Latham, which is *Dissemurus paradiseus malabaricus* (Latham). Consequently *Dissemurus setifer* Cabanis, which as above shown, is based wholly on these names of Temminck's, must likewise be a synonym of the same, and as such is, of course, not usable for the Malay Peninsula subspecies.

Neither is [*Edolius*] *Malayensis*, applied by Jerdon<sup>6</sup> to this drongo, a tenable name for the Malay race, since this is, though cited as its name, merely a mistaken identification of *Chaptia malayensis* Blyth,<sup>7</sup> which is not a *Dissemurus* at all, but *Chaptia aenea malayensis*.

Under these circumstances, the present [form seems] properly above provided with a new subspecific title.

† *Dissemurus paradiseus messatius*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Dissemurus paradiseus hypoballus*, but racquet narrower and crest shorter.

*Type*.—Adult male, No. 170451, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Selitar, 9 miles from the town of Singapore, Singapore Island, Federated Malay States, May 29, 1899; Dr. W. L. Abbott.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 148.5 mm.; tail, 312; tail except racquet feathers, 148; length of racquet, 82; greatest width of racquet, 18; total culmen, 32; height of bill at base, 11.5; longest feather of frontal crest, 9; tarsus, 24.

It is apparently confined to the island of Singapore.

† *Dissemurus paradiseus siakensis*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Resembling *Dissemurus paradiseus messatius*, of Singapore, but racquet averaging smaller; frontal crest shorter (practically absent), stiffer, and denser.

*Type*.—Adult male, No. 181264, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Siak River, eastern Sumatra, December 22, 1906; Dr. W. L. Abbott.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 142.5 mm.; tail, 357.5; tail except racquet feathers, 145; length of racquet, 69; greatest width of racquet, 17; total culmen, 32.5; height of bill at base, 12; longest feather of frontal crest, 6; tarsus, 21.

The distribution of this race includes the eastern coast region of Sumatra and at least the near-by islands.

<sup>4</sup> Nouv. Rec. Planches Col. d'Oiseaux 3 (livr. 30): texte to pl. 178, p. [1]. January, 1823.

<sup>5</sup> Nouv. Rec. Planches Col. d'Oiseaux 1 (livr. 102): Tableau Methodique. 20. January 29, 1839.

<sup>6</sup> Birds of India, 1: 438. 1862.

<sup>7</sup> *Chaptia*. *malayensis* Blyth (A. HAY Ms.), Journ. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, 15: 294. 1846 (after April). ("Malacca.")

† *Dissemurus paradiseus colpiotes*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Dissemurus paradiseus siakensis* of eastern Sumatra, but with frontal crest thinner, the feathers, particularly on the anterior portion, broader, less bristly, and usually longer; racquet shorter; and bill somewhat heavier.

*Type*.—Adult male, No. 179245, U. S. Nat. Mus.: Loh Sidoh Bay, north-western Sumatra, November 6, 1901; Dr. W. L. Abbott.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 148 mm.; tail, 306;<sup>3</sup> tail except racquet feathers, 136; length of racquet, 63.5; greatest width of racquet, 17.5; total culmen, 31; height of bill at base, 13.5; longest feather of frontal crest, 9.5; tarsus, 23.5.

This race of western Sumatra seems to be distinguishable from all the subspecies of the islands of the Barussan chain, as well as from the form of the species inhabiting eastern Sumatra.

## DICAIEIDAE

† *Dicaeum trigonostigmum pagense*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Dicaeum trigonostigmum croceiventre* (Borneo specimens), but upper parts including back and rump lighter; rump more yellowish (less orange); throat paler.

*Description*.—Type, adult male, No. 180065, U. S. Nat. Mus.; South Pagi Island, Barussan Islands, western Sumatra, November 16, 1902; Dr. W. L. Abbott. Pileum and cervix green-blue slate, the cervix a little darker; scapulars and upper tail-coverts of the same color, but a little mixed or tinged with olive; back mikado orange; rump bright analine yellow; tail black, slightly brownish and with a slightly metallic bluish sheen; wings between dark mouse gray and blackish mouse gray, margined with the color of the scapulars, except the secondary coverts which are rather deep delft blue; sides of head like the crown, but the cheeks duller; sides of neck like the cervix; chin and throat, light neutral gray; breast and sides, orange; flanks and abdomen, cadmium yellow, but the middle of lower abdomen and under tail-coverts wax yellow; lining of wing white.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 48.5 mm.; tail, 23; exposed culmen, 9.5; tarsus, 13; middle toe without claw, 8.

This race is distinguishable from *Dicaeum trigonostigmum cyprum*, of Nias Island, by its paler upper surface, and more yellowish (less orange) rump and crissum.

## PLOCEIDAE

† *Uroloncha acuticauda lepidota*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Uroloncha acuticauda acuticauda*, from India, but upper parts less rufescent (more grayish); auriculars more conspicuously spotted with white; feathers of sides of throat and of breast, with breast and jugulum, broadly margined with whitish or buffy, giving to these parts a much squamate appearance; posterior lower parts more noticeably streaked.

*Description*.—Type, adult male, No. 154014, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Tyching, Trang, Lower Siam, May 23, 1896; Dr. W. L. Abbott. Crown dark

<sup>3</sup> Racquet feathers not fully grown.

fuscous; rump brownish white; upper tail-coverts clove brown, edged with buffy brown and streaked with white; remainder of upper parts olive brown streaked with white; tail brownish black; wings fuscous, exteriorly edged with fuscous back, the inner edges of the secondaries pinkish buff; nasal plumes, lores, periophthalmic region, and cheeks, brownish black; auriculars between saccardo umber and sayal brown, flecked with whitish; sides of neck olive brown with dull buffy white edges; chin and throat, brownish black, becoming more brownish posteriorly, and the feathers everywhere with buffy or tawny squamate edges; crissum and thighs between snuff brown and saccardo umber, streaked with buffy whitish; lower breast, abdomen, sides, and flanks, grayish white, streaked and mottled with smoke gray; edge of wing brownish black; lining of wing pinkish buff, anteriorly cinnamon buff.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 49 mm.; tail, 42.5; exposed culmen, 10.5; tarsus, 16; middle toe without claw, 11.3.

+ *Uroloncha acuticauda phaethontoptila*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Uroloncha acuticauda squamicollis*, from China,<sup>9</sup> but upper parts, chin, and throat, lighter, more rufescent; jugulum, upper breast, sides of head and of neck, lighter; posterior lower surface less distinctly streaked.

*Type*.—Adult, No. 37817, U. S. Nat. Mus.; northern Formosa, March, 1862; H. B. Tristram.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 48 mm.; tail, 39; exposed culmen 10.3; tarsus, 13; middle toe without claw, 11.5.

Formosan individuals of *Uroloncha squamicollis*, which is a subspecies of *Uroloncha acuticauda*, are sufficiently differentiated to be considered representative of a different subspecies. Whether or not this race occurs elsewhere than on the island of Formosa our material does not show.

+ *Munia maja simalurensis*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Munia maja leucocephala* from Sumatra, but anterior lower parts lighter.

*Description*.—Type, adult male, No. 179369, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Simalur Island, Barussan Islands, western Sumatra, November 22, 1901; Dr. W. L. Abbott. Head creamy white; rest of upper parts walnut brown; upper tail-coverts metallic claret brown; tail dark vinaceous drab, with edges of metallic claret brown; wings between fuscous and benzo brown, the tertials and the external edgings of the rest of the wing feathers walnut brown like the back, the edge of wing lighter; chin white; throat vinaceous buff; jugulum dull wood brown; middle of breast, middle of abdomen, together with the flanks and crissum, brownish black; sides of breast and of body rather light walnut brown; lining of wing and inner edgings of the secondaries cinnamon buff.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 52.5 mm.; tail, 33; exposed culmen, 11.5; tarsus, 15; middle toe without claw, 14.

This race is known from only Simalur Island.

+ *Munia maja zapercna*, subsp. nov.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Munia maja leucocephala*, from Sumatra, but larger, with upper parts darker, less rufescent; and with lower parts darker.

<sup>9</sup> Type from Chingchow, Szechuan, China (C. CHUBB, *in litt.*).

*Type*.—Adult male, No. 220192, U. S. Nat. Mus., Sawarna, Wynkoop's Bay, Bantam, Java, November 2, 1909; William Palmer; original number, 1944.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing 56 mm.; tail, 39; exposed culmen, 12; tarsus, 16; middle toe without claw, 15.

This subspecies may be distinguished from *Munia maja simalurensis*, of Simalur Island, western Sumatra, by its larger size, and darker, less rufescent coloration, both above and below.

With the above-made additions, the recognizable subspecies of *Munia maja* are:

1. *Munia maja maja* (Linnaeus). Malay Peninsula.
2. *Munia maja leucocephala* (Raffles). Sumatra and the island of Nias.
3. *Munia maja simalurensis* Oberholser. Simalur Island, Barussan Islands, western Sumatra.
4. *Munia maja zapercna* Oberholser. Java.

ETHNOGRAPHY.—*Source of the name Shasta*.<sup>1</sup> C. HART MERRIAM, Washington, D. C.

The source of the name Shasta seems to have been long overlooked. Stephen Powers failed to learn anything about it, and was equally unsuccessful in his attempt to ascertain the name by which the Shaste Indians designate their own tribe.<sup>2</sup>

Roland Dixon, in his valuable work on the "Shasta" (1907) says of the name, that its origin and meaning "are both obscure," and even suggests that it may have been derived from the name of an old man "whose personal name was Shastika (Süstí'ka)." At the same time Dixon was aware that the name was "in use by both *Achomā'wi* and *Atsugē'wi*," but for some unknown reason concluded that "it is not a term for the Indians of this stock [Shastan] in the languages of the surrounding stocks."<sup>3</sup> Nevertheless Gatschet, in his Klamath Dictionary, published in 1890, specifically states that the Klamath name for the Shaste is *Shasti* (alternate *Sasti*), and adds that "the usual form *Shasta* is a corruption of *Shasti*."<sup>4</sup> And, as well known, the Klamath tribe (*Lutuame*) adjoins the Shaste tribe on the east.

<sup>1</sup> Received September 15, 1926.

<sup>2</sup> POWERS, *Tribes of California*, p. 243, 1877.

<sup>3</sup> DIXON, ROLAND B. The Huntington California Expedition, *The Shasta*. Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 17: (Pt. 5) 384, July, 1907.

<sup>4</sup> GATSCHE, A. S. *Dictionary of the Klamath Language*, p. 290, 1890. Gatschet gives the forms *Sasti* and *Shasti* as interchangeable, adding that the Klamath Lake people call the members of the Shasti tribe *Sástiam maklaks*.

The name given me for the Shaste by the Pit River Achomawe is *Sas-te'-che* (alternate (*Shas-te'-che*)).